



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

October 28, 2005

# News Release

## **ICE DEPORTS EGYPTIAN MAN LINKED TO 1993 WORLD TRADE CENTER BOMBING**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) on Tuesday deported Mohammed Abouhalima, a 41-year-old Egyptian national who was convicted of accessory after the fact for helping a 1993 World Trade Center bomber escape the United States following the attack.

Abouhalima, who resided in New York City prior to his conviction, was removed under escort by Philadelphia-based ICE Deportation officers and arrived in Cairo, Egypt on Wednesday morning.

“This individual endangered the national security of the United States by helping a terrorist flee after a vicious attack on our country,” said ICE Director of Detention and Removal, John P. Torres. “His criminal conviction gives him no legal right to remain in this country and ICE removed him expeditiously.”

Abouhalima was convicted in the Southern District of New York on December 9, 1998 and served an eight-year prison term (given credit for time served prior to conviction) for helping his brother, Mahmoud, flee New York to Saudi Arabia following the Feb. 26, 1993 terrorist attack that killed six people and wounded more than 1,000. His brother was later extradited to the U.S. and sentenced to 240 years confinement with no chance of parole.

ICE formally removed more than 160,000 aliens nationally in fiscal year 2004. More than half of those were criminal aliens. The ICE Philadelphia office removed 3,064 aliens in fiscal year 2005, 80-percent of whom were criminal aliens.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*